United Nations A/56/392

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 September 2001
English
Original: Spanish

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 20 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request, in my capacity as President of the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, that the attached Declaration against terrorism by the Central American Presidents be circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session (see annex).

(*Signed*) Edmundo **Orellana**
Ambassador

01-54727 (E) 240901 240901

Annex to the letter dated 20 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Declaration
Central America united against terrorism

The Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua and the representative of the Prime Minister of Belize, meeting on 19 September 2001 at the El Zamorano Pan-American Agricultural School in the Republic of Honduras, an example of the generous action of the United States of America for development in the rural areas of Central America, make the following Declaration:

1. They reiterate their total condemnation of acts of terrorism, whatever form they may take in that they constitute the cruellest and most cowardly of crimes against humanity and undermine international peace and security.

2. In response to the recent abominable acts committed against the people and Government of the United States of America and in deep recognition of the generous support that country has provided to Central America for the strengthening of peace and democracy, they express their most sincere feelings of grief and solidarity with that people and Government, as well as their firm resolve to cooperate in and support the adoption and conduct of measures designed to punish those responsible in accordance with the rules of international law.

3. The grief felt by society in the United States is shared, given that many Central American citizens were at the scene of the tragedy.

4. The peoples and Governments of the Central American countries mourn the loss of so many lives and share the grief of their family members. In this connection, they express their hope that the rescue efforts, the location of the missing and the meeting of the fundamental needs that characterize this emergency will secure the earliest possible restoration of normality.

5. They support the recent statements by President George W. Bush in which he very rightly points out that the war embarked upon is not against Islam, but against extremist groups and factions that proclaim violence as a way of life. The Presidents are aware that these terrorist acts have created a state of fear and at the same time of justified indignation, as well as an intensive activation of security systems. Consequently, the Central American Presidents consider that this special situation which affects mankind must be handled in such a way as to permit the maintenance and increase of tolerance and good relations among different cultures, religions, ethnic groups and nations, in an indication of the richness of human diversity.

6. They endorse the decision by the Security Council contained in resolution 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001 calling on all States to work together urgently to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these terrorist attacks.

7. Likewise, our Governments will sponsor and participate within the Organization of American States in the convening, on an urgent basis, of meetings to deal with the issue of terrorism as a threat to democracy and security in the hemisphere and to demonstrate our solidarity with the United States of America. We

believe that these meetings will serve to analyse the current situation and to propose specific national, bilateral and multilateral measures aimed at decreasing the vulnerability of our countries and societies to this new threat, building institutional capacity and improving the appropriate measures for preventing, combating and eliminating terrorism.

8. The Central American Presidents call on all political organizations maintaining relations with terrorist structures to suspend them forthwith. Such relations seek to legitimize international terrorism and may lead to the use of Central American territory as a base for terrorist acts.

9. We are taking the following measures, to take immediate effect within and outside our countries:

(a) Improvement of mechanisms for the exchange of information relating to possible terrorist acts between one another and with the United States and other national, regional and multilateral bodies;

(b) Strengthening of security at the region's borders, ports and airports;

(c) Maximum efforts to control and monitor migration flows in order to halt any movement of persons associated with terrorism;

(d) Coordination of action to ensure that Central American territory is not used by terrorist groups, of whatever origin or ideology;

(e) Efforts to strengthen criminal legislation so that it categorizes association with terrorist groups or individuals as a crime and authorizes the freezing and if necessary confiscation of financial resources of networks of such persons or of terrorist groups;

(f) Strong condemnation of any link between groups or sectors in the Central American region and international terrorism;

(g) Respectful urging of the legislative and judicial systems in their respective countries to apply the necessary regulations that will make it possible to try and punish these crimes against humanity by establishing appropriate mechanisms for the expeditious extradition and handing over of these criminals to the States calling for them;

(h) Ensuring the full application of the regional and international instruments on the subject, in particular the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, of 1970; the Convention to Prevent and Punish Acts of Terrorism Taking the Form of Crimes Against Persons and Related Extortion that are of International Significance, of 1971; the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation, of 1971; the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, of 1973; and the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, of 1979.

10. The above actions are to be implemented immediately by regional authorities, to which end the Presidents decide:

(a) To convene an extraordinary meeting of the Central American Security Commission to evaluate options for regional action;

(b) To convene the meeting of Central American National Civil Police Directors and the bodies dealing with migration flows in the region;

(c) To convene the Conference of Central American Armed Forces in order that it may agree to make available to the United States the services of its Humanitarian and Rescue Unit.

* * *

The Presidents reiterate their hope for a renewed world imbued with the highest values and principles of civilized, free, democratic and peaceful coexistence.

(*Signed*)
Miguel Angel **Rodriguez Echeverría**
President of Costa Rica

(*Signed*)
Francisco Guillermo **Flores Pérez**
President of El Salvador

(*Signed*)
Carlos Roberto **Flores Facussé**
President of Honduras

(*Signed*)
Alfonso **Portillo Cabrera**
President of Guatemala

(*Signed*)
Arnoldo **Alemán Lacayo**
President of Nicaragua

(*Signed*)
Moisés **Cal**
Representative of the Prime Minister of Belize

United Nations A/56/393–S/2001/896

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 98
Environment and sustainable development

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 20 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a note verbale, dated 21 August 2001, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran (see annex), concerning the blockage of water flow into the Hirmand River in the Islamic Republic of Iran, causing enormous damage to the agriculture and animal husbandry of the people in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 98, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hadi **Nejad-Hosseinian**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-54752 (E) 240901

Annex to the letter dated 20 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran, and pursuant to its note dated 30 December 2000, concerning the blockage of water flow into the Hirmand River in the Islamic Republic of Iran, has the honour to state the following:

On 27 December 2000 water began to flow, in a small quantity, in the said river towards the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. However, it was blocked once again on 16 March 2001. The blockage of water flow into the Hirmand River, which began on 8 March 2000 and continues to date, has caused tremendous damage to the agriculture and the animal husbandry of the people in the region. They are facing even great difficulties in securing drinking water supplies. Moreover, the internationally recognized wetland of Hamun has been completely dried out. It has to be emphasized in this regard that, in accordance with the 1973 Treaty on Hirmand concluded between the two countries, Afghanistan is bound to provide Iran with 26 cubic metres of water per second on average. In a joint inspection carried out by two technical teams from Iran and Afghanistan in July 2000 at the Kajaki dam and the hydrometric station at Dehrawud, which is a base for the measurement of water in the Hirmand River, the two teams jointly concluded that the flow of water in the hydrometric station at Dehrawud was 46.8 cubic metres per second and that Kajaki dam had 1 billion cubic metres of water in reserve. The inspection team also observed that the main cause of water blockage was the closure of the gates of the Kajaki dam, which prevented the flow of water towards Iran. Furthermore, information and evidence obtained through satellite photographs indicate that the amount of water in the upper reach of the Hirmand River has been considerably increased in comparison to the previous year.

Considering the above-mentioned points and invoking article V of the 1973 Treaty on Hirmand, which stipulates: "Afghanistan agrees that it shall take no action to deprive Iran totally or partially of its water right to the water of the Hirmand River as fixed and delimited by the provisions of articles II, III and IV of this Treaty", the Islamic Republic of Iran urges that the Hirmand waters be permitted to flow through the shared Parian River. Iran reserves its right to seek compensation for the damage inflicted by the breach of the said Treaty and the blockage of the Hirmand waters and will take all steps at its disposal to ensure the utilization of its water rights.